

**The City of Frederick, Maryland**  
**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**

**Minutes of July 21, 2010**

*(APPROVED 9/15/2010)*

Members Present: J. Myers, C. Meierhoefer, J. Baldi, J. Grove, M. Lawrence, C. Effland

Staff Present: R. Myers, K. Winterstein, Alderman M. O'Connor

Regrets: R. Knight

Absent: R. Jones, D. Rivera

Meeting called to order by Chairman J. Baldi at 7:02 p.m.

- 1. Review of the June 16, 2010 minutes:

*Motion* by J. Baldi to approve the minutes as submitted

2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Meierhoefer

*All in favor.*

- 2. Request from the West Frederick Farmers Market to locate to the upper parking lot of Harry Grove Stadium for at least 2011 with a possible five (5) year agreement and to reduce the rental rate as outlined in an email of July 6, 2010 and a letter of June 28, 2010.

Mr. Danny Rohrer, President of the West Frederick Farmers Market (WFFM) offered that they have been at the Baughman's Lane location since the market started around 1991. We have run into some problems with the owner of the property which have been worked out but now we are having parking issues since customers use other parking lots. We are now looking for a new home.

J. Baldi stated he frequently uses the market and he found it hard to believe there were problems there. Now they are looking to use a portion of the upper parking lot at Harry Grove Stadium (Frederick Keys) from Saturday, May 7 through November 19, 2011; Mr. Rohrer confirmed by stating their traditional dates are the first Saturday in May through the Saturday before Thanksgiving. J. Baldi stated they are requesting the use from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on those Saturday's with each vendor expected to clean up the market area so no trash is left behind, request access to the restrooms and/or permission to bring a port-o-pot to the site. J. Baldi asked if they have insurance and Mr. Rohrer stated they do.

J. Baldi also stated they are looking for a reduction in fees. He stated that if you were in attendance last month, you would have heard emphatically no to that request to three different groups. We do not want to set a precedent.

R. Myers offered that the part of the lot they are referring to is the far end of the upper lot toward Jeanne Bussard. Mr. Rohrer stated they need a minimum of 300 parking spaces; 100 spaces for vendors and a minimum of 200 for customers. J. Baldi stated the Keys have a schedule; R. Myers stated the City's office of Economic Development has talked to the Keys regarding this issue and they are on board. R. Myers stated that

usually on Saturday's the games are night games so this should not affect them. R. Myers introduced Donna Goff of the City's Economic Development office and she read a letter into the records from Richard Griffin, Director of Economic Development support WFFM and that the Frederick Keys management is supportive of the opportunity to locate the market at Harry Grove Stadium. J. Baldi asked if there were any other comments.

R. Myers offered that basically we never rent the upper lot so this is an unusual request and activity. As much as we should not waive fees, my opinion is this might be one to consider but I certainly would not do a five (5) year lease. If anything we should do a one (1) year lease to evaluate how it goes. He does not know what the fee should be, but feels there is room for negotiation.

C. Effland asked what the negotiation was on the North Market Street farmers market in the old Carmack Jay's property. D. Goff stated they worked with the property owner, Douglas Development, and leased it through them for \$1. M. Lawrence stated that is a different organization.

Alderman O'Connor inquired about the market on East Street is done through Shab Row. Mr. Rohrer stated that market is associated with WFFM and Mr. Bert Anderson allows that for free as a service to the market. J. Grove stated she likes that they want to use a facility that is not frequently used.

Mr. Rohrer stated this is the first year they ever paid a fee to the owner of the current location and when Mr. Griffin came to a meeting he was talking to one of our other members about a lower fee than what we proposed. In working with Heather Gramm (of the City's Economic Development Office) - R. Myers asked what is the fee they are requesting since several letters reflect different amounts - Mr. Rohrer stated \$75 per day. Originally they wanted a season long fee but since it will be divided between the City and the Keys, a per day fee was established.

C. Meierhoefer inquired about inclement weather and closing the market. Mr. Rohrer responded the market goes on rain or shine.

R. Myers asked whether the Keys will honor the \$75 per day or whatever the City agrees upon. Mr. Rohrer responded the Keys will agree with what the City sets at the fee. Alderman O'Connor stated for clarification that the Keys take the revenue on game days and the City takes the revenue on non-game days. He also inquired about rental of the upper and lower lots. Staff responded that the upper lot is rarely rented but the lower lot is rented frequently. He further inquired about the fees and staff responded the rate is \$200 per day City resident for either lot. He asked how we arrived at that figure and R. Myers responded it is set through the budget cycle. Alderman further inquired about the size of each lot and R. Myers responded that the upper lot is at least twice as big as the lower lot. Alderman O'Connor further offered that he would agree that this would be the time to waive a fee because the rental price should be based on the market, but there is no market but there is maintenance. Who maintains the parking lots? R. Myers stated the Parks Division does the maintenance for the City. So there is a cost even if there is no one on the lot, so it would be fair to cover something. They are only looking for a portion of the lot so basing the fee on a proportional basis; if they are only renting 300 spaces then the justification could be the rest of the lot is available for anyone who wants to rent it on that same type of per diem. Let's figure out what the rational cost is based on the amount of square footage they want to use because that does not deny anyone else from coming and saying I would like to rent another portion of that lot on game day. We might be able to accommodate other groups who did not even know you could rent these areas or run an event. J. Grove expressed concern that at the last meeting the requests were to reduce rates - Alderman O'Connor interjected that what he is saying is that if you can rationally connect this \$2,000 figure somehow to the amount of space that they want in the lot, then you are actually - yes the lot is X per day, but I think we have some flexibility and perhaps we should look at our fee structure at some of these areas and determine how we come to that number. If there is a reason to deviate from it, then we have a rational or logical reason to deviate from it.

M. Lawrence stated he agrees with what Alderman O'Connor is saying and for the benefit of those who are not accustomed to attending these meetings, each and every month we get requests for waive or reduce fees for various items. Most of the time they are asking for reduced fees for facilities where there are other people that are using those facilities or would like to use them. We get very concerned about setting a precedent where if you waive the fee for one group how can you justify not waiving

it for others. Of course we are also in a time of budget crises and all that that implies, so we do not take lightly waiving fees but in this case what Alderman O'Connor is pointing out is for one thing we have a facility that not a lot of people are begging us for use of so it might be a matter of gaining some revenue as opposed to no revenue from it for these days. The other thing is coming up with a surefire justification where if someone challenges this at some point in the future, we can say it's based on the percentage of the facility that they were going to be using. J. Baldi stated he also had no problem with this thinking process and his suggestion would be as the recommending body we recommend that we try to put a lease together, let staff put the numbers on it because they can figure that out. C. Meierhoefer inquired if WFFM did say they would take responsibility for port-o-pots so the City does not have to provide them at their cost. Mr. Rohrer responded that if the restrooms would be available, that would be preferable, but they would provide port-o-pots if necessary.

J. Baldi asked for a motion. M. Lawrence asked how often the lots are rented. K. Winterstein stated once every couple years. R. Myers further stated that the lower lot is configured so you can do a lot of different things down there while the upper lots has islands which segments the areas off smaller and you can't do the things in the upper lot that you can in the lower lot. The lower lot gets rented a lot for motor cross, driving lessons and they just can't do that in the upper lot. Alderman O'Connor inquired about how many Saturday's out of the year is the lower lot rented for this length of time. R. Myers and K. Winterstein it does not get rented for events such as this request, but it is rented frequently for both Saturday and Sunday for other events at maybe a dozen to fifteen times a year for a weekend. R. Myers stated that 300 spots of the upper lot is about the size of the entire lower lot. Alderman O'Connor further stated that from a market standpoint he would not be averse to looking at if you lower the fee and more people come in, is that a bad thing. I suppose that is the evaluation that if we drop the price and we get more people who want to use it are there negatives with more people making requests to use these lots for whatever purpose. We have to maintain them anyway and these uses seem minimally invasive. R. Myers continued that if we just do a one year lease, we will be able to evaluate the entire process. If they are leaving truckloads of rotten vegetables that no one bought, then we need to look at it. But when we go out after they close every weekend and it's cleaned like no one has been there and if all parties are happy - he feels a one year trial is acceptable. Mr. Rohrer stated that whatever is usually from the market would be corn husks, or incidentals like that but everyone typically cleans up.

*MOTION* by C. Effland to recommend to the Mayor and Board of Alderman the request from the West Frederick Farmers Market to locate to the upper parking lot at Harry Grove Stadium with a one (1) year agreement, to reduce the rent with staff to finalize the agreement and for the Market to provide port-o-pots.

2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Myers

*ALL in favor.*

\*\*This will go to the Mayor and Board for final approval - staff will notify the applicant of the date and time which will probably be in September.

- 3. Request by Mr. John Amann to discuss the current tennis court policies.

R. Myers offered that this issue seems to come up every decade or so. As you look in the packet, there was extensive discussion about this back in 2000 and through those meetings is when we came up with a different policy that basically broke days into three (3) time slots - morning, afternoon & evening - with a rental fee established based on a formula on the cost of lights, resurfacing the courts, etc. Ideally this cost would be updated every seven (7) years. The idea is that in order to do lessons, tournaments or round robin play, you need to have courts of five (5) or more. There are only two (2) in our City system and both are here in Baker Park with a total of eleven (11) courts. However, there are twenty-three (23) courts City wide. The idea was that we would try to rent Fleming first because there are six (6) courts there and then overflow to West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street / College Avenue with the idea that single players can play at the other courts while tournaments and lessons cannot play at single courts. Another thing that came out of that discussion was a future park plan, which will probably be one of the next parks that gets built in our system, is out off of Route 40 at the Commons of Avalon. In this park, a tennis complex is proposed with five (5) more courts that would hopefully alleviate some of the crowding of the Baker courts. So when those plans are all approved by the Mayor and Board, it's just a matter of time when the developer builds that community. It is to be located between Waverly Elementary School and the Lake Coventry community at Schaeffer Drive. Obviously we do have a big portion of the time slots is our own classes that we offer

through the Recreation Department. USTA uses the courts quite a bit for their programs; Hood College, St. John's Catholic Prep. Those twenty-three (23) courts do not include all the ones at public schools like Frederick High and TJ High and we (the City or Recreation Department have no say on school courts). R. Myers and Mr. Amann have had some phone and email conversations and it was suggested to come to this meeting to discuss ideas. Typically the courts are busy in the spring and fall; if you look at the schedule right now for July, there are very few rentals. About two months in the spring and fall almost every night is booked through one of these groups. That is an overview of where we are and how we have gotten here. In your packet there are various schedules, minutes and discussions and the application for your review.

J. Baldi asked if the other single courts could be rented. R. Myers offered that all of our courts are first come, first serve unless they have been rented.

Mr. John Amann stated that his concern is trying to stagger the rentals so that citizens like himself and groups that he plays with can get court time on those busy times. That is when everybody likes to play - in the fall and spring outside. School courts are mentioned and none of them are lighted which is the attraction to the Baker Park courts and he is not sure about the other twenty-three. He is a resident of the City living near Baker Park, taxpayer and would like access to those courts. He would like to see that we try not to rent them all at the same time and let the citizens have access. He does not have any issues with anyone renting the courts, but he would like a fair shot at it too. Reconsider how we rent and leave some available to the citizens to play.

Mr. Ken Bass is in a unique situation where he plays with USTA and with Mr. Amann and understand both sides of the issue. It is his understanding that USTA pays for the courts and this is revenue and how is this different than a little league that pays for their field time. There is supposed to be a schedule at the courts, but not sure that everyone knows that. Recently the schedule that was posted was the previous months schedule so it was not current. He also understands that the USTA recently gave a grant to the City to replace some nets, so that is a benefit for USTA and the public that probably would not have happened if USTA were not playing on the courts. Typically when not playing with USTA, when he goes to the courts, USTA matches go to about 8:30 p.m. and the lights are on when not needed. Also, when he is an

acting captain with the league, when someone comes by at the beginning of a match and we have rented all five (5) courts but not everyone showed up so we are only using four (4), we allow folks to use the court. In that instance everyone is warming up at the same time, but what happens is someone completes early and a new person comes on to warm up and the balls are flying all over the place, that interferes with the play of the USTA leagues. In that case we are more reluctant to say use the court and ask that they please wait until they are done or until there is a court between the next court where play is continuing.

Ms. Lynn Coddington, Executive Director of USTA for Maryland, stated that she has gotten emails from various league coordinators with concerns over issues that have happened. There is concern over poor sportsmanship and other things that for most USTA members do not condone. What is important from USTA's point of view is that they do consider all of the parks and recreation agencies as partners. We did provide some funding to replace nets this year in part because we were going to have a tournament here. I think ultimately it comes down to you to decide obviously how to manage times that league play occurs. We are here to answer questions and have rented for courts. They post signs about a week in advance of their tournaments. Also, they respect the fact that people want to use the beautiful courts and there is a balancing act. Putting play on while a match is going on can be difficult from a tennis player's point of view, in the heat of a match to have someone warming up that can be disruptive.

R. Myers stated that if you look at our entire sports system, leagues take precedent; little league, softball, in-line hockey and even basketball courts because the theory behind it is that organized sports leagues cater to a larger group. We do not want to discourage walk up play, but you could argue the point. If you would like to go down to Angleberger Field, the little league field here, with your sons and hit ground balls and pitch to them you certainly can do that; but you can't do that if the little league had a game scheduled that day. Even our pavilions can be rented; if they are not, you can take a chance and walk into a pavilion anytime during park hours, but if you want to make sure it's reserved you come through this office and complete an application. The fact that we have twelve (12) other courts out there, half of which are lighted that individuals can go to - for instance, the Overlook Park courts are in great shape. Some of our other more favorite courts, like the ones at Max Kehne Park, are in pretty bad shape, but this will be the third year in a row we are applying for a grant and usually the third year you get the grant to completely redo those courts which are also



lighted. I certainly understand Mr. Amann's point and it comes down to trying to manage our facilities for the masses versus the individuals.

J. Baldi agrees with the statements. How many nights in a row is USTA using the courts? The league from spring to early summer is usually Monday through Thursday evenings and a few times on Saturday's and Sunday's. K. Winterstein offered there is a different league within USTA that does weekend tournaments which are Friday, Saturday, Sunday two or three times a year. R. Myers offered that you then have our lessons. Cheryl Radcliffe, Recreation Supervisor, offered we also have Junior Team Tennis that runs through USTA.

M. Lawrence asked how you join USTA. Lynn Coddington offered that for an adult it's \$35 and sign up on the website and anyone can join from juniors through seniors. USTA is a 501C4 non profit and the National USTA Organization and Maryland is a 501C3 non profit so we are open to everybody regardless of ability, race, etc. Mr. Amann stated he is also a member of USTA but also plays independently with friends as well.

J. Myers inquired that the biggest issue for Mr. Amann is scheduling; finding a slot available to play. Mr. Amann concurred. C. Effland stated she sees according to the schedule that they are pretty much booked in the spring and fall but if you go into summer on West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street there are a lot of open slots. Mr. Amann stated he would like to play in Baker Park in the evenings. C. Radcliffe stated that right now all that is taking place is on West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street with the Junior Team Tennis on Tuesday nights. Mr. Amann stated that is correct for the summer, but the spring and fall are when there are problems getting on a court at Baker Park.

J. Myers asked if there was a particular time frame Mr. Amann is looking for. Mr. Amann stated just evenings 7:30, 8:00 on. R. Myers stated that if USTA is over at 8:30 p.m. the courts are open until 10:00 p.m. Mr. Amann stated they are not typically done by that time. C. Radcliffe stated City lessons are over at 8:30 p.m. USTA stated that most play is done by 8:30 p.m. Also, if USTA starts by 6:30 p.m. a match could be done in an hour or an hour and a half. R. Myers asked what was on the courts today - the schedule indicates nothing. When he drove by at 6:15 p.m. to

come to this meeting every court was full with walk on play. Mr. Amann stated that this time of year it's not a problem; it's the spring and fall.

C. Radcliffe stated that in spring and fall, we do two (2) nights a week and depending on the class sizes if we are only using three (3) courts, we allow other people to use the remaining courts. The same is true with the Junior Team Tennis. All staff tries to work with the public to allow court use.

Mr. Jay Butler representing Hood College offered that their rental time does not interfere with the times that Mr. Amann is looking to use the courts since they typically rent for 4 - 6 p.m. on weekdays for a five (5) week period in the fall and a six (6) week period in the spring. This is his third year at Hood and the first year there were a lot of confrontational events at the courts and why they were using them and why don't you build your own. Hood will have their own courts within two (2) years and they will not be lighted since the neighbors do not want them. He has been a player for 35 years and where he lived in New Jersey the courts were monitored by staff at a 16 court clay and hard court facility. Phone calls would reserve a court and a monitor was available at no cost. On behalf of Dr. Volpe, we feel we are stealing from the City because the rental fee is extremely low. You offer such a fair price. We use the Fleming Avenue courts because with college matches you have to have six (6) courts; you can't use five (5). Hood is willing to help with expenses for nets and things like that; we rarely use the lights. If you raise the fees, we are ready to pay the fees.

Mr. Sheldon Henry of St. John's Catholic Prep had the same confrontational issues several years ago as well. They too are looking to build tennis courts as well. Matches start at 4:00 and typically done by 6:00 or 6:30 p.m. depending. Again the solution for this, from 2002 to 2006 there were no issues; then in 2007 when Hood came there were issues. We do allow walk on play if the courts are not being used. With practices, sometimes we will consolidate courts to allow walk on play and as we go along, add people on. We try to be courteous of the citizens.

J. Grove asked if there is a way to stagger the start times to allow more free courts. Mr. Henry stated that with students getting out of school at 3:00 p.m. and having to

travel to the courts by 4:00 p.m. would make that difficult. C. Radcliffe stated that matches can be rather short or you could have a marathon match which can throw everything off. Mr. Bass offered that most of the USTA players work so that is why the 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. slot so folks do not have to take off work early to play.

Alderman O'Connor asked what the fee is. Staff stated it is in the packet on the Application for Use of Tennis Courts; it is \$10 per time slot at three (3) time slots a day for City residents and it's five times (\$50) per time slot for non City residents per location. R. Myers reminded those present that when the fees were established, there were no fees; so going from nothing to these fees ten (10) years ago...Alderman O'Connor stated that this is the reverse issue than before; this is where the demand exceeds our ability to serve it. Two thoughts come to mind; (1) the market would bear a high fee. Not everyone is going to like that. With full disclosure, he (Alderman O'Connor) is on the board of St. John's Catholic Prep, so I'm not trying to raise the fees. R. Myers stated that can be addressed with the next budget cycle.

Alderman O'Connor continued that (2) is the window where these eleven (11) courts in the center of the City are completely unavailable for public use - I don't know that there's a way to get around that - R. Myers stated that's like saying we going to try to keep the little leagues off the fields at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday mornings. Alderman O'Connor stated it is a different situation from his perspective because there are other diamonds where you could - R. Myers states there are other tennis courts too.

Alderman O'Connor continued that you have to play tennis on tennis courts and there are other fields, but he appreciates Mr. Amann wanting to use the Baker Park courts that are within walking distance from his house. You would have to get in your car to drive to other venues so why not drive to another tennis court. We can't build every venue in every neighborhood so everyone has easy access to it; you get many amenities living so close to Baker Park. He only thought if there was a way to construct a schedule that takes in to account to minimize to the greatest extent possible, if it can be done, completely locking them down for extended periods of time so the public has no access to them. We would get complaints about access to other parts of the park system if for whole days or weekends at a time you could not get into the park to do anything because it was being rented by someone. R. Myers asked for an example because it happens all the time. Referring back to little leagues; Alderman O'Connor stated little leagues are a different animal and R. Myers asked why, because there are other little league fields. Alderman O'Connor responded because there are other little league and each one has their own field and they are organized. K. Winterstein offered that we do not have enough softball fields or soccer fields - Alderman O'Connor asked if we get complaints from residents saying I want to play pickup softball but there is not a field available - both R. Myers and K.

Winterstein emphatically stated yes that happens frequently. R. Myers further stated the same happens with basketball, multi-purpose fields - show us someone who is renting a facility and we will get complaints from somebody as to why can't they use the basketball court at College Estates now - Alderman O'Connor stated that answers the question that the fees have to go up.

J. Baldi asked for any other comments. Lynn Coddington offered to remember that league players using the courts are citizens; they reside here so they are taxpayers as well as paying fees. Yes the courts are reasonably priced. We have limited courts throughout this state and perhaps we are victims of our own success. Part of the problem, is that tennis has surged and we don't have enough facilities or courts. Raising fees, and you have a right to do it especially in these times when money is so tight, but this is a local non profit group which means they have to raise money from the players in order to pay the fees. In Annapolis, they paid their City fees for a couple of years to hold a tournament there and provided them nets as we did the City of Frederick; they raised their fees a year or two later and we can no longer afford to hold our tournaments there. It's a beautiful facility and we have a beautiful facility here that we love using so again, I know this is a very big balancing issue of fees and costs and revenue, but these are citizens on those courts. Please keep that in mind as you think about fees.

Mr. Amann stated that all weeknights are totally consumed at both sets of courts. R. Myers asked if they are consumed by a group that has rented or like tonight, walk on players. Mr. Amann stated that spring and fall, on Tuesday and Thursday nights specifically since that is when he looks to play, USTA is on West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and lessons are on Fleming and all the courts are taken and you can't get a court. C. Radcliffe stated that they do not typically use all the courts for lessons; using two or three courts up front and other residents are using the back courts; she does not think our lessons take up all six (6) courts. C. Effland stated they all end at 5:00 p.m. Thursday's at Fleming in March / April. C. Radcliffe stated City lessons do not start until May and they run for four (4) weeks for two nights a week. Mr. Amann stated they played last night and there was no problem at all.

Mr. Butler asked when the next cycle of court repair will take place. R. Myers stated it has been about seven (7) years, but due to the budget crunch and other than the grant we are pushing for at Max Kehne Park, that is undetermined. Mr. Butler further

stated that the Baker Park courts are becoming to be in disrepair and with continued use; you are going to have to move to a five (5) year system. The top surface at Fleming is almost all gone and with a little bit of rain it's totally unplayable. Raising the cost of the rental so you start creating funding for these repairs - R. Myers stated that government financing does not work that way, there is revenue side that has no equation to the expense side. A lot of citizens think that raising the fees allot the Parks & Recreation Department to make repairs, get more trophies, etc., and it does not work that way. Alderman O'Connor stated he did not think they are totally disassociated - we should not be raising our fees any more than the cost of the services we are trying to deliver; there ought to be a connection between the two and that's his point. R. Myers stated that if we are going to raise our fees to cover our expenses - Alderman O'Connor stated that is not what he was saying - R. Myers continued then the cost to go to the swimming pool would be \$12 a day instead of \$2. Alderman O'Connor stated there ought to be a connection between our fee structure and what we are trying to accomplish with the services that we deliver.

J. Myers stated the real issue here tonight is the time slot to get Mr. Amann in to play. Mr. Amann stated he represents more than just him; as a resident of the City he feels like he should have access to one or two courts that aren't consumed by - R. Myers interjected that in his opinion he does as there are twelve (12) other courts in the system. The people who live next to Baker Park, that's not "their" park and the people who live next to Max Kehne Park, it's not "their" park; there are 60,000 residents and 54 parks and they belong to everyone. Mr. Amann stated he is not even aware of the other courts. J. Myers stated that as a sports person I play intramural softball, basketball and I don't go to a certain spot; I move around and find out where I can play at the time slots - I work around it and that's what I see here. While we (the City) do commit ourselves to renting, as a citizen, it's my job to work around the slots or find a location where I can go play. J. Grove stated maybe we can do a better job of advertising where other tennis courts are so that as residents come up, they can see a listing. It's hard not to think locally when you live next to a tennis court and think there are other places to play. R. Myers stated that is a great idea and we try to keep the bulletins boards at the Baker Park tennis courts up to date - it has the policies of the courts as well as a list of every court and whether or not they are lighted or not. Everything is also on the City's website except the schedule. It was suggested to put the Baker Park tennis court schedule on the website as well.

J. Grove further stated that having tournaments is a really good benefit to the City bring people in and using our facilities as well as good for the community. Mr.

Amann stated he loves the tournaments. Alderman O'Connor stated that he is not suggesting raising the fees to drive people away, but there is a market. M. Lawrence stated that when you get into thinking of raising the fees because we are getting such a high demand, but actually are you against then opening it up more for the general public use because they are not paying a fee to use it so if you reserve courts just for general public use, then actually you are reducing the overall revenue that you are collecting by allowing more free use. R. Myers stated that anyone can reserve court time. Mr. Amann stated he is a taxpayer and assured that he is paying for use of the court. J. Myers interjected that he is a taxpayer as well and paying taxes for Mr. Amann to play there. R. Myers stated that the courts can be rented by individuals, leagues or anyone. M. Lawrence stated it's really an issue of supply and demand and that is being addressed in the long range plans because there is another facility proposed and the private groups building their own facilities; it seems like the issue is being address but it will not be this year.

Mr. Will Trimble - if you take a couple courts for the citizens while the USTA league is going on and the citizens walk on the court and they are playing for two hours and Mr. Amann comes down to play, you still can't get on the court.

J. Baldi stated that he appreciates Mr. Amann's concern but we cannot see where there can be a change at this time. We can certainly look at it again in the fall at scheduling time and I think the attitude of Parks & Rec has always been as much as possible first come, first serve but the teams do get possibly an edge on that because they pay for that privilege. We do have at any given time when the Baker Park courts are in use there are twelve other courts available throughout the City on a first come, first serve basis. You might need to expand your horizons, understanding you live close to the Baker courts, but we don't see any other way around them. Mr. Amann stated he understood and inquired that he could rent them as well and at that rate it's a good rate.

The suggestion was again made to put the calendars on the website for the Baker Park courts. R. Myers stated we will work on that and it is a great suggestion. That way, you could check online prior to going to the area only to be turned away.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi A. Winterstein

Commission Secretary